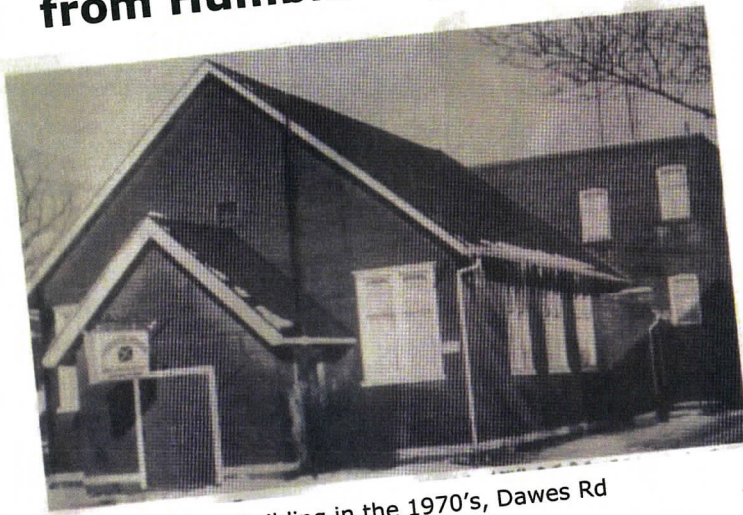


# INFOCUS

*The Official Publication of the Jamaican Canadian Association*  
E-mail: [info@jcassoc.com](mailto:info@jcassoc.com) Web Site: [www.jcassoc.org](http://www.jcassoc.org)

**May 2007 Issue**

## from Humble Beginnings



JCA Building in the 1970's, Dawes Rd

## JCA Celebrates 45 Years

The Jamaican Canadian Association is now a mature 45 year old and heading for its first half century of life.

Many of the core group that founded this bastion of independent Jamaica in Canada and Toronto in 1962 are still with us, and it is for them to say whether JCA has achieved the goals that were set for her when the ideas were conceived.

What JCA has done, in my view as a person who has been in Canada for 26 years of that 45 is spectacular as far as immigrant organizations are concerned.

Jamaicans, wherever they immigrate, become acknowledged leaders of the immigrant community. Britain, the

United States and Canada where the main populations of Jamaica outside the homeland are centred, undeniably, we have been leaders in making sure immigrants are not treated as alien visitors, but as a vital part of the whole.

In some case, in order to make sure the whole is respected, we have had to "take the licks" and be branded "troublemakers" while others who benefit from our "troublemaking" are viewed as non-threatening and "nice."

But we have taken the blows, done it our way and all have benefited.

For instance, in a time when other immigrant and even Canadian-born

## to Community Leader



JCA's Building in 2007

organizations still announce their first woman president, the JCA boasts a long line of female presidents and vice presidents of which current president Sandra Carnegie-Douglas is only the most recent.

The next five years for the JCA are in my view crucial and the JCA must show the leadership among the Canada-centric Jamaican groups.

We have to develop a political representation strategy and set a goal of seeing many, many more Jamaicans and/or other Caribbean people in political leadership at the municipal, provincial and federal levels.

*Continued on page 2*



## Jamaican Canadian Association

### Board of Directors

#### President

Sandra Carnegie-Douglas

#### Vice President

Barbara Thomas

#### Treasurer

Cyndi Anderson

#### Executive Secretary

Norma Brown-Larro

#### Membership Chair

Anton Squire

#### Public Relations Chair

Leo Campbell

#### Fundraising Chair

Edna Smith-Bowes

#### Building Committee Chair

Keith Haye

#### Education Chair

Sylvanus Thompson

#### Women's Committee

Camille Hannays-King

#### Youth Affairs Committee Chair

LaToya McPherson

#### Senior's Group Representative

Luther Hayle

#### Editorial Board

Leo Campbell (Chair)

Eunice Graham

Patrick Hunter

Natasha Blake

Kayon McLeod

Norma Brown-Larro

Carolyn Goulbourne-Warren

Warren

Sandra Carnegie-Douglas

#### Executive Director

Nzinga Walker

45 Years - continued from front cover

We came to this country, bringing with us from Jamaica an already fully developed political consciousness; we were political animals in our homeland, and when we go home, and even without being there, we take a huge interest in the political life "back there."

Yet the same people who will advance an argument for being allowed to vote in Jamaica as a non-resident, will just as proudly boast of never having voted in Canada or "can' bodda'," when there is a municipal or provincial or federal election.

We came here speaking one of the two languages of this country and as educated people who read and wrote at least one of the two languages of this country. Yet when I look at the various levels of government, I do not see us. When I look at the conventions of the various political parties, I do not see us. Why?

We must fix that and before the 50th birthday.

Secondly is the "bringing" of our young people into leadership roles. There are too few people under the age of 40 in leadership roles or in leadership-in-waiting roles in the Jamaican community.

The founding parents of the JCA were young people when they made the formation possible. By now the line of succession of the JCA and every other Jamaican organization should be fully established.

I do not see this.

Why?

We have to reach our young and make sure they know that they are in charge of the future as we were in charge of the past. They are also in charge of what will happen to the JCA and the Jamaican community in Canada, and to Jamaica for the rest of eternity.

We have to include the young more and make political and community understanding and work as much a part of the non-academic curricula of our children and young people as soccer and piano lessons.

Today, the Jamaican Canadian Association is a household name; most Canadians in general and Jamaican-Canadians in particular know of it and in most cases, each Jamaican coming to Canada since 1962, has been touched in some way by it.

If we do not take our place in the political arena and train our young to assume the mantle of leadership, there will be no JCA and Jamaican community for them to pass onto their children.

The Jamaican-Canadian Five-year Plan must contain those two keys: Political participation and Future Leadership.

Peace and love

by: Philip Mascoll

Member of Jamaica's Diaspora Advisory Board And President, The Jamaican Diaspora - Canada Foundation

303 Eglinton Ave. East, Toronto, ON, M4P 1L3, Canada

### Inside this issue:

Editorial	3
President's Report	4
Executive Director's Report	6
In The News	7
Women's Space	8
Education Corner	9
Fundraising Profiles	10
JCA Elections	11
Calendar of Events	12

**Raging Bull RESTAURANT**

LET US CATER FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT

**ALL DAY BREAKFAST**

**DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS**

Open For Your Morning Meetings, Lunches or Afternoon Get Togethers

Fax: (416) 742-2157

789 Arrow Road, Weston, Ont.

Cell: (416) 508-7525

(416) 742-3307

All Types Of Omelets

## Editorial

### Cricket Lovely Cricket

Cricket fans in the West Indies could not believe their stroke of luck four years ago when it was revealed that the ICC Cricket World Cup would be played in the region. Jamaica was selected to host the opening ceremony as well as the first ball of the first over, while Barbados would close out at the crease with both the closing ceremony and the last ball of the last over set for April 28, 2007.

The organizing team in Jamaica fielded the most amazing opening ceremony. Along with Mello, the event Mascot, a cast of over 2000 performers prepared for the moment that many of

those alive at this time will never be able to witness again. On Sunday, March 11, 2007, at Florence Hall in Trelawny, Jamaica, the team's hard work was put on show for the entire world to see. And what a show it was! The colour, the energy, the vibes, the cultural extravaganza, the incredible creativity, can only be said to have made not just Jamaica, but the entire Caribbean region immensely proud.

It was exciting to watch as Sir Garfield Sobers declared the games open, to wild cheers and amazing fire-works, one simply

got goose bumps. Jamaica's Prime Minister, Portia Simpson-Miller glowed as she welcomed the world to Jamaica and the Caribbean. Dr. Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada and Chairman of CARICOM stated that the CWC in the West Indies "is the realization of a great dream." All persons involved in the planning should be justly proud and take a huge bow.

Let the games begin! On Tuesday, March 13 just after 9:00

Pakistan, a very worthy opponent, was however not fully up to par and after fifty (50) overs, the West Indies scored 241 runs, despite losing Chris Gayle for only two (2) runs in the third over with the West Indies standing at 7 for 1. However, Pakistan faced with precision bowling from medium pacer Dwayne Smith was only able to score 187 runs off 47.2 overs. High praise should be heaped on Marlon Samuels who scored sixty-three runs to lead the West Indies to their convincing

win. The West Indies then comfortably disposed of their next two opponents Zimbabwe and Pakistan to win the first round and move on to the Super Eight phase.

As other games are

played in St. Kitts & Nevis, Trinidad & Tobago, St. Lucia, Guyana, Grenada, Antigua & Barbuda all hearts are pumping with hope that the West Indies will do what not many host teams are able to do, claim the coveted trophy on Caribbean soil. Despite dark clouds descending on what is known as the gentleman's game with the death of Pakistan's coach Bob Woolmer, cricket fans continue to hold on to the hope of a West Indies win. Our condolence to the Woolmer family. We wish the Windies success.

by: Claudette Cameron-Stewart



The Jamaican Military Band opened the show at the Opening Ceremony

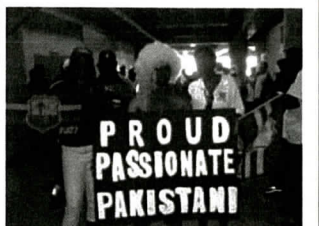


Patrons entering the newly built Trelawny Multi-Purpose Stadium for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007 Opening Ceremony on Sunday, Mar 11



West Indies and Pakistan at the first match on March 13 at Sabina Park in Kingston

**"The organizing team in Jamaica fielded the most amazing opening ceremony"**



West Indies and Pakistani fans at Sabina Park in Kingston



A section of the enthusiastic crowd at the Opening Ceremony

Photos courtesy of Carolyn Goulbourne-Warren





**Sandra Carnegie-Douglas**  
JCA President

*Doing Nuff Tings!*

**"Along the way we have faced many challenges, but we have found ways to work together and work through our differences"**



## President's Report — A Message From The President

### SPRING 2007

A legacy of Resistance! A legacy of Determination! A legacy of Empowerment! A legacy of Advancement!

Well it is spring 2007! This is the time of year when we shake off the heaviness of the winter, when we look ahead with optimism and we become reinvigorated to move forward with purpose to achieve our goal. This is a very good time!

2007 is the year when the Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) celebrates its forty-fifth anniversary and its many years of supporting and building families and communities; and contributing to the shaping of the Canadian landscape and Canada's international image. What an achievement!

2007 is the year that Jamaica, our beloved homeland, celebrates its forty-fifth anniversary as a nation. This little, yet tallawah nation that has, and continues to redefine geo-politics, globally, has yet to show the full ambit of its strength and power as a nation. What an achievement!

2007 is the 200th Anniversary of the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade in the British Empire (The Bicentenary). On November 28, 2006, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution to declare March 25, 2007 as the day for the international observance of the Bicentenary. The Transat-

lantic Slave trade, slavery and its abolition was born out of the seeds of resistance that grew in the belly of enslaved African peoples. While there were British actors who played important roles in the passing of the Abolition legislation in the British Parliament on March 25, 1807, we must first and foremost, pay homage to our enslaved African ancestors, whose spirit of resistance and fortitude laid the foundation for the eventual abolitionist force that swept through the British empire. What a feat!

These are tremendously significant landmarks from which we can provide a blueprint for us to move forward as Jamaican, Caribbean and African peoples living in Canada --- the constituencies served by the JCA.

At times, we may lose sight of the significance of the seed planted by the founding members of the JCA back in 1962, and the arduous work that they and other members, over these many years, have carried out to ensure the JCA grows into a strong and viable organization 45 years later. This is no small feat! We remain today, the largest and longest standing African Canadian organization in Canada! JCA has waged many battles leading and alongside the community on the issues of the day affecting our people and communities -- immigration, education of our children, housing, policing,

employment, culture and identity, issues impacting our youth.... to name a few.

Along the way we have faced many challenges, but we have found ways to work together and to work through our differences; and to unite around our common love and commitment for this institution and its significance to communities and its peoples. That love has been at the heart of who and what the JCA is about. It has been that lionheart love (in the words of the Honourable, Louise Bennett-Coverly - Miss Lou) that has kept us grounded and bonded in the deepest of our battles..

These are important milestones and, while we should savor the past, we cannot rest on these laurels. Rather, they must serve as the impetus to light the fire in our belly to push forward -- with a sense of purpose, determination and integrity. The collective condition of our peoples, communities and nations is such that we must critically reflect on our situation today in the context of these milestones -- JCA's 45 year history, Jamaica's forty-fifth anniversary and the Bicentenary -- with the goal to fully assess and advance our overall social, economic, political, and cultural progress, as communities, nations and as a people -- regardless of our geo-political identity and grounding.

*President - continued on page 5*

## Ontario Government's Bicentenary Plans Announced

The Ontario government has named fifteen individuals to a special committee that will advise on province-wide projects to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade.

The government is investing up to \$1 million in community-based commemorative projects to remember, educate and commemorate the history of slavery and its abolition in Ontario

The Ontario Bicentenary Commemorative Committee on the Abolition of the Slave Trade will advise the government and work with organiza-

tions and communities across the province on activities that commemorate the Act that was passed by the British Parliament on March 25, 1807.

Committee members represent

academia, historical societies, archivists, the arts, and the African-Canadian community from across the province.

Members of the committee include: Dr. Jean Augustine,

Chair; Ned Blair, Dr. Hazel Campayne, Debbie Douglas, Janice Gairey, Kemi Jacobs, Francis Jeffers, U-sheak Koroma and Rosemary Sadlier, all from Toronto; Lesa Francis, Durham region; Karolyn Smardz Frost and Carolyn Wilson of Collingwood; June Girvan, Ottawa, Dr. Oluremi Ogundimu, Sudbury and Bryan Prince of Buxton.



**Back row (left to right): Carolyn Wilson, U-Sheak Koroma, Dr. Oluremi Ogundimu, Ned Blair, Bryan Prince, Janice Gairey and Lesa Francis**

**Front row (left to right): Dr. Afua Cooper (Project Co-ordinator), Minister Colle, Dr. Jean Augustine and Dr. Hazel Campayne**

*President...continued from page 4*

For the JCA and our own reflection, as we turn the pages and chart the Association's course for the next forty-five years, we resolve to bolster this great institution and to ensure that it remains relevant and strengthened to provide an effective sustainable support infrastructure for the future of our communities and our children. This will not occur by happenstance, but can only be achieved with the same unbreakable love and determination for progress from us individually and collectively - our members, supporters and the community as a whole.

Over the next several months, the Board of Directors will pro-

ceed with an organizational review to examine, identify and implement measures to enhance the operations of the Association. This is to ensure that the JCA embraces the next 45 years -- better, stronger and more powerful! Integral to this process is our aim to incorporate strategies and measures that will facilitate our ability to effectively attract and retain the boundless talent, energy and resources that exist among our young men and women for the further growth and strengthening of the Association.

The JCA will highlight these important landmarks throughout 2007. The themes of resistance, determination, empowerment and advancement interpreted from these historical

events will underpin our work throughout this year and as we move forward.

It is also important that, as part of the wider community, that we interpret and apply the significance of these landmarks and the themes -- of resistance, determination, empowerment and advancement -- that they espouse, as a call for us, individually and collectively, to develop and implement meaningful, sustainable and systematic action that will transform our communities; and that will enable the capacity of our people to qualitatively and quantitatively share in the opportunities and powers of society -- starting right here, in Canada.

**Nuff Respect,**  
*Sandra Carnegie-Douglas*



**Don't miss the**

**Annual General Meeting**

**May 27th at the JCA Centre**







## Executive Director's Report

Stories about how unions, organizations of societies began often sound like a fairy tale. JCA's story is no exception - just a group of "brothers and sisters" who came together to socialize and celebrate the independence of their country, to have fun and do away with the usual boredom, loneliness and isolations that new immigrants normally face in any new country.

Little did these "folks", who met to socialize privately, anticipate that their meetings would be the forerunner to a large and vibrant organization that would provide social services for a large segment of the Caribbean/African community 45 years later. Many of the founding members of the Association, who are now in their senior years, are enjoying, along with countless members of our community, the social benefits of what the original group did envisage when they first met in 1962.

Today's JCA is a large and significant community organization that offers a variety of social service programs and activities. For instance, the Caribbean Canadian Seniors Club encourages our "heroes" to continue to live active and healthy lifestyles. It has not only grown in size but has also increased the frequency of their meetings throughout the year.

Today's JCA also offers Newcomers' Settlement Programs

which not only provides a friendly social setting for new Jamaican immigrants, but advises immigrant generally about accessing information and services to assist in facing the daunting challenges of a new society. These can include employment, housing and upgrading their credentials or apprenticeship. They may also include advice on sponsoring loved ones left behind.

Today's JCA offers Parenting Programs which provides counselling to parents and children in areas of health and nutrition, child discipline and other issues related to healthy child development. Today's JCA also provides Transition programs, popularly known as "K-Club", to assist the young who may be in conflict with the law, and an eight-week social development program for children ages 7-12 - Leaders in Partnership.

To the JCA founders, it is important that our children obtain or have access to a good education. To that end, the Association established the Saturday Morning Tutorial and Heritage Program which offers additional tutoring for students from grade one to grade eight.

Today's JCA also provides employment services to unemployed workers of 45 years and over through its Opportunity Plus+, which helps to prepare them in suitable employment searches. Today's JCA is also the lead agency in an Ontario

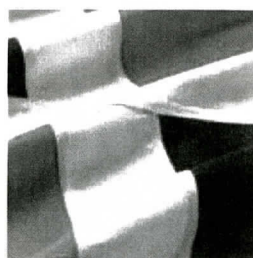
Government sponsored Youth Outreach Worker Program, to assist youth in finding suitable educational, employment or apprenticeship opportunities.

Today's JCA is the result of the dedication of the members, its board and staff who have expanded on the vision of the founders to make it a relevant organization that is supportive of the Caribbean/African community.

It is therefore fitting, that as we celebrate the 45th Anniversary of the JCA, that we acknowledge and pay tribute to the foresight of the founders. On behalf of the staff and volunteers of the social services branch, we wish the membership, Happy Anniversary.

by: *Joe Boateng*  
*Interim Executive Director*

**Check out our redesigned  
JCA web site at  
[www.jcassoc.org](http://www.jcassoc.org)**



**"as we celebrate the 45th Anniversary of the JCA, we acknowledge and pay tribute to the foresight of the founders"**

## In The News

### JCA WELCOMES THE APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR EVADNE COYE, HIGH COMMISSIONER TO CANADA

Ambassador Evadne Coye, CD., former Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium and the European Union, assumed duties on January 22nd as Jamaica's High Commissioner to Canada.

A career Diplomat, High Commissioner Coye succeeds High Commissioner Carl Marshall who demitted office in July last year.



**Jamaica's High Commissioner to Canada, Her Excellency Evadne Coye (left) receives a gift from Hon. MaryAnne Chambers, Ontario's Minister of Children and Youth Services (centre) as Consul General Anne-Marie Bonner looks on**

Ambassador Coye, while resident in Brussels, was also Ambassador to France, Ireland, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands, as well as High Commissioner to Botswana and South Africa.

She received her first posting as a Head of Mission in 1992 when she was appointed resident Ambassador to Mexico while being accredited to Belize, Central America and Panama. She has also been Non-resident Ambassador to Argentina and Uruguay. Prior to this, she served with the Jamaican Mission to the United Nations, New York, the Jamaican Embassy, Venezuela; and Jamaica's Permanent Mission to the Organization of American States (OAS) where she was Deputy Permanent Representative.

Ambassador Coye joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in 1975 and worked in a number of positions and departments, rising to the office of Under-Secretary with responsibility for Bilateral and Western Hemisphere relations.

She is the recipient of a number of Awards including the Corrdón del Aguila Azteca, which she received in 1996 from the President of Mexico, for excellence in diplomatic service; and the Pelican Award, (1992) from the USA Chapter of the UWI graduates for excellence in representing Jamaican and Caribbean interests at the international level.

The Ambassador holds a B.A. and M.Sc. degrees in International Relations from the University of the West Indies.



**President of the Alliance of Jamaican Alumni Associations, Alene Chen (left) presents a gift to Jamaica's High Commissioner to Canada Her Excellency Evadne Coye, at a Community Welcome held at the Jamaican Canadian Association**



**Her Excellency  
Evadne Coye  
Jamaica's High  
Commissioner to  
Canada**

**Be sure to mark your calendars to attend the**

**Mother's Day Brunch**

**on  
May 13th**

**Reminder  
Annual Membership Fees are now due**





Viola Desmond  
1914-1965

**Viola  
Desmond's  
story was one  
of the most  
publicized  
incidents of  
racial  
discrimination  
in Nova  
Scotian and  
Canadian  
history**

## Women's Corner

### The Story of Viola Desmond and Racial Discrimination in Nova Scotia

Viola Desmond (1914-1965) was a young Halifax beautician and teacher. On November 8th, 1946, she was on her way to Sydney, Nova Scotia, when she was caught in a blizzard in New Glasgow, and her car broke down. When the mechanic told her he couldn't fix the problem until the next day, she found a place to stay for the night, and decided to pass the time with a movie at the local Roseland Theatre. She asked for a ticket for house seats, but the teller sold her a ticket for the balcony, which was where black people had to sit in that town.

When she sat in the lower "Whites Only" house seats, the manager ordered her to sit in the balcony, which was designated for Black patrons. When she refused, he called the police and she was arrested, dragged

bodily from the theatre and thrown in jail overnight for twelve hours. Bruised and angry, she sat bolt upright all night on the hard jail bench, wearing her white gloves. In the morning she was charged with "attempting to defraud the Federal Government" based on her refusal to pay the one cent amusement tax difference between the 2 cents charged to those sitting in the balcony and the 3 cents charged to those sitting downstairs. Even though she had offered to pay the difference in ticket price, she was convicted of failing to pay the tax on the downstairs ticket. After a short trial, Viola was sentenced to a fine of \$20 plus court costs and 30 days in prison.

The new Nova Scotia Association for the Advancement of

Coloured People (NSAACP), founded in 1945 by William and Pearleen Oliver, raised the money to pay her fine and fight the conviction. Her lawyer took the case to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, but her appeal lost on a technicality.

Viola Desmond's action took place almost ten years before Rosa Parks boarded a bus for home in Montgomery, Alabama and remained after being ordered to give up her seat to a white passenger, in an action that was a key part of the U.S. civil rights movement.

The Nova Scotia government finally repealed the laws allowing segregation in 1954.

*Taken from Canadian Historical News, January 29, 2006.*

*Submitted by:  
Women's Committee, JCA*

### Notice of Annual General Meeting

In accordance with By-Law No 1 Amended and adopted as of the 27th day of August, 2006

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
THE JAMAICAN CANADIAN ASSOCIATION  
WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY MAY 27, 2007  
AT 1:00 P.M AT  
THE JAMAICAN CANADIAN COMMUNITY  
CENTRE**

**995 ARROW ROAD, TORONTO ON M9M 2Z5**

FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

To Elect Directors and Trustees for the ensuing year; (Art. 10.7.1.)

To receive reports of the President, other officers and committees through the Board report of the President. (Art.10.7.2.)

To receive the Auditor's Report (Art. 10.7.3.)

To appoint an external Auditor, who shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting after being appointed, or until his/her successor is appointed; (Art. 10.7.4.)

To conduct any other business of the Association; (Art. 10.7.5.)

#### Please Note:

1. The fiscal year of the Association shall be

*AGM Notice - continued on page 9*



## Education Corner

### From Slavery to Freedom- Black History Month 2007

Black History Month is an annual observance in February, celebrating the past and present achievements of African Americans in the Diaspora. In an effort to honor the history and contributions of African Americans to American life, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, founder of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, proposed the establishment of "Negro History Week" in February 1926. Dr. Woodson chose the second week of February because it commemorates the birthdays of two men who greatly affected the African American community: Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. Negro History Week later became Black History Week in the early 1970' and in 1976, the week-long observance was expanded to a month in honour of the bicentennial of the United States.

Despite a long presence in Canada, people of African descent are often absent from Canadian history books. There is little mention of the fact that slavery once existed in Canada, or that many of the Loyalists who came here after the Ameri-

can Revolution and settled in the Maritimes were Blacks. Few Canadians are aware of the many sacrifices made in wartime by Black Canadian soldiers, as far back as the War of 1812. In December 1995, the Parliament of Canada officially recognized February as Black History Month, following a motion introduced by the first Black Canadian woman elected to Parliament, Jean Augustine, then M.P. for Etobicoke-Lakeshore. The House of Commons carried the motion unanimously.

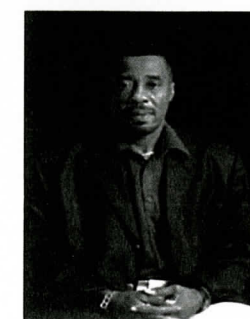
***"In December 1995, the  
Parliament of Canada  
officially recognized  
February as Black History  
Month"***

Every year during Black History Month, Canadians are invited to take part in the festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians, past and present. This is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians, who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally

diverse and prosperous nation we know today. It is also an opportunity for the majority of Canadians to learn about the experiences of Black Canadians in our society, and the vital role this community has played throughout our shared history.

The JCA had several activities to celebrate Black History Month including the annual event with schools from the community. More than 400 school children and educators from 10 schools participated in the celebration, which was organized by JCA staff and the Education and Cultural Committee. The Guest Speaker was Kofi Hope, founder of the Black Youth Coalition Against Violence. The JCA Saturday Morning Tutorial Program had several activities including the preparation of cultural dishes by the tutors and a review of the history of JCA and its founders. The Association also partnered with Tipper Foods, The Black Health Alliance, Toronto Public Health, the Caribbean Diabetes Association and various other agencies in hosting the 8th Annual Black History Month Taste of the Caribbean African Food Expo. The event featured cooking demonstrations, health education and food safety presentations and exhibitions and blood sugar screening.

**Sylvanus Thompson -  
Chair Education and Cultural  
Committee**



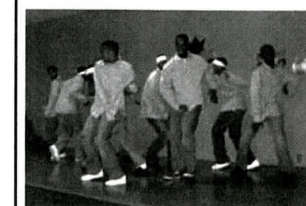
Sylvanus Thompson  
Education Committee



Toronto Public Health booth at the 8th Annual Black History Month Taste of the Caribbean African Food Expo



Students hard at work during JCA Saturday Tutorial Morning program



(above) Students gave an outstanding performance at the JCA sponsored Black History Schools event

*AGM Notice - continued from page 8*  
from April 1st to March 31st of each year. (Art.1.4.)

2. For the purpose of the Annual General Meeting a member in good standing shall be a person whose membership fee was paid for the previous fiscal year in conformity with (Art. 5.3.). Brand new members signing up at the AGM are not eligible to vote.





Mr. Alton Telfer, member of fundraising committee makes presentation to TIMEX in recognition of ongoing support to JCA Fundraising events

**"Come walk with us at the 25th year of the Walk-A-Thon on May 6th"**

## Fundraising Profiles

### Jamaican Canadian Association's 7th Annual Golf Tournament

Another cold, dreary winter has come to an end and that can only mean one thing. It's time to get out your clubs and register to participate in the Jamaican Canadian Association's 7th Annual Golf Tournament Fund-raiser on Saturday, August 18, 2007 at the Cardinal Golf Club.

For the past 7 years this event has helped to generate funds to address JCA's capital building costs. To date, proceeds from this tournament have exceeded \$80,000 for JCA. With your help, we hope to significantly increase the funds we raise in 2007 to help to ensure that our Jamaican Canadian Association becomes a stronger and more prominent resource for our community.

To achieve this goal, the JCA Golf Committee would like every Association member and

friend to seek out a sponsor for this event. Many companies and organizations in Toronto and the surrounding areas benefit from the patronage and support of the Jamaican Canadian community. Please help to give these companies an opportunity to show their appreciation of our community by inviting them to become a JCA Golf Tournament Sponsor. It is an affordable and beneficial way to promote their business, product or service to the Jamaican Canadian Community.

To help you share this sponsorship opportunity with companies and local professionals, the Golf Committee has created a general sponsorship letter and promotions package that you can give to those firms that you feel could be potential sponsors for this tournament. Please call the JCA at 416-746-5772 or

send an email to [info@jcassoc.org](mailto:info@jcassoc.org) to have sponsorship recruitment letters and tournament registration information mailed to you.

Registration information for Tournament players can also be downloaded from the JCA website or by contacting the JCA at [www.jcassoc.org](http://www.jcassoc.org).

#### Recognizing The Sponsors

- ◆ Brant- Ville Construction Ltd.
- ◆ Flow 93.5
- ◆ Sandals
- ◆ Hitachi
- ◆ Air Jamaica
- ◆ Grace
- ◆ Mirabel Travel
- ◆ Phase II
- ◆ Western Union
- ◆ Symmetry
- ◆ Jamaica Tourist Board
- ◆ Southport Data Systems

### The Jamaican Canadian Association's Walk-A-Thon 25 Years Later

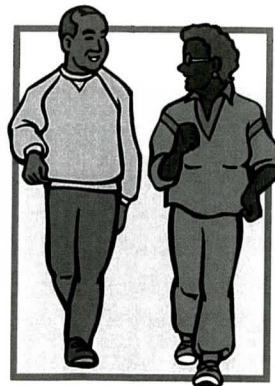
The idea of a Walk-A-Thon was conceived during a conversation Juanita Thompson and I had in 1982, when I was Membership Chair. The idea was presented to the Board at that time and it was accepted. It was a time when the Association was looking at ways to raise funds to purchase a building.

It was a rainy day when 10 brave members set out on the first walk. We raised approximately \$2,500. We came to the conclusion that this method of fundraising would be cost effective and labour saving. We were right. To date, we have raised over \$200,000. It is to the credit of the Association that this venture has continued.

This year we are hoping to raise \$25,000 to mark 25 years since its inception. We need everyone on board to achieve this goal so, get your families, friends and co-workers both near and far involved.

Please contact the JCA office at 416-746-5772 for Walk-A-Thon forms.

by: D. Bailey



## JCA Elections Are Coming - May 27, 2007

The Nominating Committee is recruiting for the following positions for the Board of Directors:

- |                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Executive Vice President | 2 year term |
| 2. Vice President           | 1 year term |
| 3. Assistant Secretary      | 2 year term |
| 4. Treasurer                | 2 year term |
| 5. Building                 | 2 year term |
| 6. Membership               | 2 year term |
| 7. Public Relations         | 2 year term |
| 8. Women's Committee        | 2 year term |
| 9. Youth Chair              | 1 year term |

**Please Note:** For the purpose of the Annual General Meeting a member in good standing shall be a person whose membership fee was paid for the previous fiscal year in conformity with (Art. 5.3.). Brand new members signing up at the AGM are not eligible to vote.

#### NOMINATION AND ELECTION PROCEDURES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Members are encouraged to nominate individuals to the Board of Directors, the Executive and the Chairs of Committees. Board Members are required to submit a written report to the Board

monthly; as well as attend the monthly Board Meeting. Occasionally there may be more than one meeting in a month if emergencies arise.

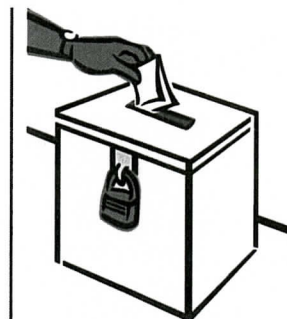
Members of the Executive Board are sometimes required to attend two or three meetings per month as circumstances dictate. Board Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month; time commitment per Board Meeting is approximately three (3) hours.

Elections will be held at the Annual General Meeting on May 27, 2007:

The Nomination Committee will review and summarize the nomination forms and forward a Nomination Package to each nominee, consisting of the following:

- a) Copy of the By-Laws of the JCA
- b) Acceptance or Rejection Form
- c) Biographical Information

All candidates for the Board must submit a statement outlining their particular area of strength, their commitment to the organization and their goals for the organization as it relates to the MISSION/VISION STATEMENT of the organization. For further info please call the JCA Office at: Phone: 416 746 5772



**"Elections will be held at the**

**Annual General Meeting**

**on May 27th"**





InFocus is published  
quarterly by the

Jamaican Canadian  
Association  
995 Arrow Road  
Toronto, Ontario  
M9M 2Z5

Phone: 416-746-5772  
Fax: 416-746-7035  
E-mail: info@jcassoc.org

We're on the Web

www.jcassoc.org

#### Contributors

Avril James

Beulah Campbell

Dr. Vincent & Fay Conville

Claudette Cameron-  
Stewart

Sylvanus Thompson

Daphne Bailey

Philip Mascoll

#### Advertising

Carol Plunkett-Fox

#### Design and Layout by

Baswell Wright

#### Printing by

Kwik Kopy

Design and Print Centre

Letters and Submissions  
welcome. The Editorial  
Committee reserves the  
right to edit materials.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

# THE JAMAICAN CANADIAN ASSOCIATION

## SPRING OPEN HOUSE

Join us at The JCA Centre  
995 Arrow Road

FRIDAY MAY 25, 2007  
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.....**SHARP!**

- Meet the JCA Board
- Meet the JCA staff
- Meet some of our community partners
- Meet old friends or make new ones

THIS YEAR JCA TURNS 45!  
COME AND HEAR ABOUT OUR  
PROGRAMMES & SERVICES AND HOW  
WE ARE *BUILDING* FAMILIES &  
COMMUNITIES!

**OPEN MIKE: Share your views about the JCA?**

**MIX 'N' MINGLE - CHAT 'N' CHEW**  
NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY, BRING LOTS OF BUSINESS CARDS!  
Dominoes, games and more.

Come spend some quality time in good company among friends

Music  
Cash Bar  
Refreshment  
RSVP 416 746 5772 ext 450

Please note: the following event dates were submitted  
to the PR Committee by the printing deadline

<b>Mother's Day Brunch</b>	<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>May 13, 2007</b>
<b>Annual General Meeting</b>	<b>Board</b>	<b>May 27, 2007</b>
<b>Annual Barbeque</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>July 7, 2007</b>
<b>Flag Raising Ceremony</b>	<b>Board</b>	<b>August 5, 2007</b>
<b>Independence Church Service</b>	<b>Consulate</b>	<b>August 5, 2007</b>
<b>Independence Gala</b>	<b>Board</b>	<b>August 11, 2007</b>
<b>Quarterly Membership Meeting</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>August 26, 2007</b>
<b>Scholarship and Awards Program</b>	<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>September 15, 2007</b>
<b>Health Fair</b>	<b>Education / Womens</b>	<b>October 20, 2007</b>
<b>Quarterly Membership Meeting</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>November 25, 2007</b>
<b>New Year's Eve Gala</b>	<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>December 31, 2007</b>